

Commissioner for Patents
Proposed Amendment dated February 24, 2005
Response to Final Office Action dated November 24, 2004
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Serial No.: 10/606852
Art Unit: 3632
Examiner: Sterling
Docket No.: RPS9 2003 0080 US/

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2, 3, 6, 9-11, 14, 15, and 18-21 were presented and examined. The Examiner rejected claims 9, 10, 11, 14, and 18-20 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lindsay, U.S. Patent No. 5,697,757, (hereinafter "Lindsay.") Claim 15 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lindsay, in view of Stenkvist *et al.*, U.S. Patent Application No. 6,334,595 B1, (hereinafter "Stenkvist".) The Examiner allowed Claims 2, 3, 6, and 21. In this response, Applicant has canceled claims 9-11, 14, 15, and 18-20, amended claims 2 and 3, and added new claims 22-24. Claims 2, 3, 6, and 21-24 are pending.

Claim rejections under 35 USC § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 9, 10, 11, 14, and 18-20 under Section 102(b) as being anticipated by Lindsay. In response, Applicant has canceled each of the rejected claims.

Claim rejections under 35 USC § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claim 15 under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lindsay in view of Stenkvist. In response, Applicant has canceled each of the rejected claims.

Claim amendments and new claims

Applicant amended allowed claim 3 to recite "first arm" instead of "arm" to provide a distinguishing adjective for the first arm. This distinction is necessitated by the addition of new claims 22-24, which include limitations reciting a second arm. The amendments to claims 2 and 3 are made solely to provide clear distinction between a first arm and a second arm recited in one of the newly added dependent claims. The amendments are not made for any purpose related to patentability.

The limitations recited in the newly added claims 22, 23, and 24 are substantially identical to the limitations presented in originally submitted claims 4, 7, and 8 (now canceled). Accordingly, the amendments present no new matter. Because claims dependent upon a

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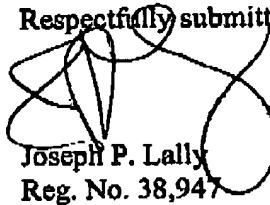
nonobvious claim are inherently nonobvious, Applicant submits that claims 22-24 are inherently nonobvious because their base claim (claim 3) is nonobvious.

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In the present response, Applicant has responded to Examiner's claim rejections under 35 USC § 102(b) and 35 USC § 103(a). Accordingly, Applicant believes that this response constitutes a complete response to each of the issues raised in the office action. In light of the amendments made herein and the accompanying remarks, Applicant believes that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant would request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections, allow the pending claims, and advance the application to issue. If the Examiner has any questions, comments, or suggestions, the undersigned attorney would welcome and encourage a telephone conference at 512.428.9872.

Respectfully submitted,



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